

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : William J. Clancey et al.                      Prior Art Unit : 2776  
Serial No. : Div. of 09/114,590                      Prior Examiner: M. Perkins  
Filed : May 14, 2001  
Title : POPULATING CELLS OF AN ELECTRONIC FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

At page 3, line 21, after "subtotal columns" insert --for a row holding a flow term and has a row value defined as a preceding subtotal column for a row holding a stock term--.

Three kinds of columns may be provided, namely base columns, subtotal columns, and grand total columns. For a row holding a flow term, a subtotal column may have a row value defined as the sum of base column values, and for a row holding a stock term, a subtotal column may have a row value defined as a preceding base column value. A grand total column has a row value defined as the sum of total columns for a row holding a flow term and has a row value defined as a preceding subtotal column for a row holding a stock term. The period columns may be collapsed to show the user a view of the statement consisting of the terms column and total columns. A subtotal time period for a subtotal column may be received from the user, the subtotal time period may be compared to the period of time covered by the statement, and the period of time covered by the statement may be extended to allow computing the subtotal column.

In the claims:

Cancel claim 1-14, and 21

Please add new claim 23 as follows:

23. (New) A computer-implemented method of generating content in an electronic financial statement having cells at intersections of rows and columns, each cell having a cell value, the method comprising;

obtaining a row definition associated with an entire row of the financial statement;

obtaining from the statement data a first column definition associated with an entire first column of the financial statement and a second column definition associated with an entire second column of the financial statement, each column definition specifying a period of time, the first and second columns being different columns of the financial statement; and

generating from the row definition and the first and second column definitions a first cell value for a first cell at the intersection of the row and the first column and a second cell value for a second cell at the intersection of the row and the second column, the first cell value being generated by evaluating a first formula expression generated automatically and solely from the row definition and the second column definition, the second cell value being generated by evaluating a first formula expression generated automatically and solely from the row definition and the second column definition.

Applicant : William J. Clancey et al.  
Serial No. : Divisional of 09/114,590  
Filed : May 14, 2001  
Page : 3

Attorney's Docket No.: 09158-003002

### Remarks

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

Applicant asks that all claims be examined. Enclosed is a \$355.00 check for the filing fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*May 16, 2001*



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**Version with markings to show changes made**

**In the specification:**

The paragraph beginning at page 3, line 17 has been amended as follows:

Three kinds of columns may be provided, namely base columns, subtotal columns, and grand total columns. For a row holding a flow term, a subtotal column may have a row value defined as the sum of base column values, and for a row holding a stock term, a subtotal column may have a row value defined as a preceding base column value. A grand total column has a row value defined as the sum of total columns for a row holding a flow term and has a row value defined as a preceding subtotal column for a row holding a stock term. The period columns may be collapsed to show the user a view of the statement consisting of the terms column and total columns. A subtotal time period for a subtotal column may be received from the user, the subtotal time period may be compared to the period of time covered by the statement, and the period of time covered by the statement may be extended to allow computing the subtotal column.

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